

## **IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **Animal Feeding Operations Listserv**

In this February 19, 2007, issue:

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#### **OPEN FEEDLOT MANUAL AVAILABLE**

Producers who need a construction permit for an open feedlot will want to check out the [Open Feedlot Construction Permit Manual](#), available under Fact Sheets on the [DNR Web site](#). The manual was developed to help speed the application process and allow producers who use the new process to receive a construction permit within 60 days or less. A pre-application meeting between the producer(s), consultant(s) and the DNR is the biggest change in the process.

Generally, producers need a construction permit if they need a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, and plan to construct or expand their open feedlot or its run-off handling system. Less than 10 percent of the 1600 open feedlots registered with the DNR have needed construction permits. Some of those dropped below 1,000 animal units, but would need a construction permit and an NPDES permit if they expand to 1,000 animal units and discharge to a stream at any time. Some feedlots, such as medium and designated CAFOs, need an NPDES permit even if they have less than 1,000 animal units. There is no fee to apply for an open feedlot construction permit.

The manual includes an updated version of the [Open Feedlot Construction Permit Application form](#) (542- 1427), which was updated in January 2007.

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#### **FORM FOR NPDES PERMITS REVISED**

An updated version of the [Application for Individual NPDES Operation Permit](#) (542-4001) has been posted on the forms page of the [DNR Web site](#). The form was revised in January of 2007 and should be used by producers who are required to have a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit (NPDES).

According to state and federal law, all large CAFOs (generally those animal feeding operations with 1,000 or more animal units) who discharge to a stream at any time are required to have an NPDES permit. Iowa open feedlots need carefully consider if their

facility discharges or has the potential to discharge at any time in deciding if they need to have an NPDES permit. If a large CAFO does not have an NPDES permit it would be a violation of state and federal law to discharge to a stream under any circumstances even if the open feedlot did not anticipate a discharge.

Medium CAFOs (generally, 300 to 1,000 animal units) may also be required to have an NPDES permit. And, smaller operations may be required to have an NPDES permit if the DNR determines they are a designated CAFO. More information is available on the [U.S. EPA Web site](#).

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### **DNR FORM FOR NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN IS NOW AVAILABLE**

The DNR has developed a nutrient management plan (NMP) form, primarily for the convenient use of open feedlot and other producers required to have an NPDES permit. The [Nutrient Management Plan](#) form is available on the forms page of the [DNR Web site](#). Producers who must have an NPDES permit or have more than 1000 animal units on open lots are required to have an NMP. However, producers who apply for cost-share through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) are required to have a comprehensive nutrient management plan (CNMP) – available through the [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#).

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### **SMALL ADDITION TO MMP FORM**

The DNR has added a category for the status of an operation on page 1 of the [manure management plan \(MMP\) form](#) (542-4000) for an "existing operation, new owner." The new addition should help avoid confusion about whether or not indemnity fees are due. This form and others can be found on the DNR Web site on the [AFO forms page](#).

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### **MARCH 1 IS DEADLINE FOR MANURE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION**

Commercial and confinement site manure applicators who want to become certified or to renew their certificates need to complete their training and send in the application form postmarked on or before March 1 to avoid paying a late fee. Training can be taken at county Extension offices by video. Some [confinement site applicator training](#) is still available through Extension. Applicators must make an appointment to take the training.

About 210 confinement site applicators who have missed one or more annual training sessions will have to take a make-up test at their [DNR field office](#) before they can renew their certificates. Applicators must make an appointment to schedule the test. More information about certification and land application is available on the [DNR Web site](#).